Removal of Encroachments on Delhi-Gurgaon road

5440. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the area under unauthorised occupation on Government land on both sides of old Delhi-Gurgaon Road from village Samalakha to Kapashera Delhi border;

(b) that this unauthorised occupation of Government land has resulted in traffic hazard particularly during office hours in the morning and evening; and

(c) the action being taken/proposed to be taken to get the Government land vacated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) to (c) This Ministry is responsible for development and maintenance of National Highways. Development/improvement and maintenance of all roads other than National Highways is the responsibility of the concerned State Government. Old Delhi-Gurgaon Road from village Samalakha to Kapashera is not a part of National Highway-8 now. This falls under the jurisdiction of the Govt, of Delhi.

Four laning of Balasore-Cuttack section of NH-5

5441. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to take up the four laning work of Balasore-Cuttack and Bhubaneswar section of NH-5;

(b) if so, the fund allocation made for the purpose; and

(c) the steps taken to expedite the four laning of Cuttack- Bhubaneswar section as well as to start the four laning of Balasore- Cuttack and Bhubaneswar-Khurdha section of NH-5?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Rs. 45.45 crores have been allocated during 2000-01 for the work of four laning of Bhubaneswar-Cuttack-Jagatpur section of N.H.-5. Out of total allocation Rs. 496.8 crores made to NHAI for Externally Aided Projects adequate funds will be made available for completion of Jagatpur-Candikhol

section of N.H.-5. For four laning of Chandikhol-Balasore section of N.H.-5 funds are earmarked from Cess Fund.

(c) Four laning of Bhubaneswar-Cuttack-Jagatpur of NH-5 is targeted for completion by June, 2000. Jagatpur-Chandikhol section of N.H.-5 is targeted for completion by Feb, 2003 and for Chandikhol-Balasore and Khurda-Bhubaneswar section of N.H.-5 detailed engineering is nearing completion. Pre-qualification of civil contractors is in progress.

Fund for maintenance of National Highways

5442. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to create a fund for financing the maintenance of National Highways;

(b) if so, what are the salient features of the fund; and

(c) what are the norms finalized for operating the fund?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) It has been decided that 50% of the cess of Re. 1.00 per liter on High Speed Diesel (HSD) will be spent on development of rural roads. Out of the balance fund *i.e.* 50% of the cess on HSD and the entire cess of Re. 1.00 per liter on petrol, 30% will be spent on the development and maintenance of State sector roads and 70% will be spent on the development and maintenance of National Highways, construction of rail-over-bridges/rail-under-bridges and safety works at unmanned level crossings.

(c) Finalisation of norms for operating the fund is at preliminary stage and hence no details can be given.

Completion of Trivandrum by-pass

5443. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN: Will'the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to take up the second stage of Trivandrum by-pass and remaining stages of Quilan and Alleppey by-passes; and

(b) if so, by when?